

IEEE UK & Ireland – Special Interest Group in Humanitarian Technologies (SIGHT)**HUMANITARIAN TECHNOLOGIES LECTURE SERIES****IEEE Ethics & COVID Certification Initiatives**

The IEEE Standards Association's Ethics Certification Program for Autonomous and Intelligent Systems (ECPAIS) aims to create specifications for certification and marking processes that advance transparency, accountability and reduction in algorithmic bias in Autonomous and Intelligent Systems (A/IS). The value of this certification process in the marketplace and society at large cannot be underestimated. The proliferation of systems in the form of smart homes, companion robots, autonomous vehicles or any myriad of products and services that already exist today desperately need to easily and visually communicate to consumers and citizens whether they are deemed "safe" or "trusted" by a globally recognized body of experts providing a publicly available and transparent series of marks.

In this brief introductory talk, an overview of the ECPAIS programme and a special initiative regarding developing certification criteria for Contact Tracing Technologies is given by Dr Ali Hessami, the IEEE ECPAIS programme VC and Process Architect.

Understanding the structure of the spread of news about Covid19 vaccination - a machine learning approach applied to Twitter data

The spread of misinformation poses a severe threat to the future take-up of a Covid-19 vaccine (Nature 13 May; ArXiv2004.00673). There are careful analyses of the sources of misinformation on social media (Covid-19 Disinformation Briefings (ISD 2020)) but these require significant individual human expertise. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the take-up of childhood vaccinations in England was declining, suggesting an already increasing wariness around vaccination. Therefore, tracing how, and when, stories about vaccines spread through the general population is important as it will improve our understanding of these processes allowing misinformation about a COVID-19 vaccine to be more effectively countered.

This talk by Dr Keeley Crockett provides a brief overview of a project that applies machine learning techniques and semantic similarity measures to obtain a wider, data-led picture of how and when information about Covid-19 and vaccines is spread via tweets.

Speakers**Dr Ali Hessami**

Process Architect and VC,
IEEE-SA ECPAIS Programme
Chair-IEEE P7000 standard
Working Group, Chair-IEEE
UK & Ireland SIGHT

**Dr Keeley A Crockett
SFHEA SMIEEE**

Chair IEEE Women in
Computational Intelligence
Department of Computing
and Mathematics,
Manchester Metropolitan
University

**IEEE UK&I Section invites you to a
Zoom webinar.****Topic****IEEE Ethics & COVID Certification Initiatives****Date & Time****3rd July 2020, 03:30 PM London****Join us****<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84142615451>****Phone one-tap****United Kingdom: +442030512874, or +442034815237****Webinar ID:****84142615451#**